

Washington, D.C. -- U.S. Rep. Rush Holt (NJ-12) announced today that the City of Trenton is receiving \$500,000 to help clean up contaminated and polluted sites. The funding comes from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Brownfields Program. The funding will be used to clean up three sites: the Anthony Storcella property at 21 Nottingham Way was formerly used for textile and rubber manufacturing, coal distribution, and machine shop activities, and is contaminated with PCBs and metals. The Greg Grant site at 927-939 East State Street and Freeman Lane was formerly an automobile storage garage, laundry, and dry cleaning facility, and is contaminated with polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons and metals. Petroleum grant funds will be used to clean up a former gasoline station at 678 North Clinton Avenue, which was built in 1930. It is contaminated with petroleum hydrocarbons.

"The Brownfields program has served communities well, helping make them healthier and more livable, all while providing jobs and setting the stage for community growth," Holt said. "I'm pleased Trenton will be able to clean up three sites long contaminated and polluted. This is a wise investment of funding."

When the Anthony Storcella property is cleaned up, the city plans to redevelop it as a farmers market that is expected to bring jobs and fresh produce to the neighborhood and encourage investment. When the Greg Grant site is cleaned up, the city plans to redevelop it with 20 new units of affordable housing. When the former gas station is cleaned up, the city plans to redevelop it as housing by Habitat for Humanity.

Since 1995, the EPA's Brownfields Program has provided funding to help communities prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. According to the EPA, a brownfield is a property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

In 2002, Holt supported the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act, which helps states and communities around the country cleanup and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants.